

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 9th JANUARY 2012

PRESENT: Mr P Sibbald (Chairman) Mr A Bell, Mr D Broad, Mr J King and Mrs E Broad (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Mr G Brister.

ABSENT: Miss L Gallagher.

VACANCY ON CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL: The Clerk reported that an election had been requested and she understood that it would be held between 16th February and 7th March. Notices advising of relevant dates, including nominations, would be issued for display in due course.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th December 2011 were agreed and signed as a true record.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Cllr. Fiona McKenzie was present and the Chairman invited her to speak. Cllr. McKenzie stated that should there be anything she could assist with to let her know.

Fields Road Speeding: It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Poulton to explain his letter, which had been circulated, on behalf of the Fields Road Speeding Group. Mr King explained that when the group met with Mrs Watkins and Mr Swift they had advised that any letter sent would need the support of the Parish Council. When Council reconvened the issue of “Gates” which were part of the 2009 scheme was raised and the Clerk agreed to look at the emails from this period. There was also discussion on the removal of the white lines which was requested in the letter. Mr Broad objected to the removal of the white lines as he feels they help road safety by keeping vehicles apart. Mr King agreed to speak to Mrs Watkins to gain her view on this before the letter is sent. It was noted that a good job had been done by Highways clearing the verges recently allowing pedestrians to step out of the way of traffic more easily.

Localism: Mr Robson had circulated a letter following the recent CLT Board meeting asking the Parish Council to consider requesting another Housing Needs Survey as he felt it was now an appropriate point to confirm that a need for affordable rented houses still exists and would establish the need for affordable “senior” bungalows. It was agreed to open the meeting to allow Mr Robson to speak. Mr Robson explained that GRCC would undertake the survey and the CLT would circulate the survey and the only cost involved would be around £30.00 for printing. Martin Hutchings from GRCC was keen to come to see the Parish Council to discuss the survey. When Council reconvened it was agreed to the CLT's request

to undertake another survey and invite Martin Hutchings along to the next meeting. It was also agreed to ask him to email or bring along to the meeting other surveys so

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the questions could be fine tuned to incorporate CLT tenure and live/work units. Mr Robson also confirmed that the proposed public meeting in January would be postponed in light of the new Housing Needs Survey being undertaken.

SETTING OF 2012/2013 PRECEPT: The Clerk had produced a draft budget which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Mr King suggested in future years consideration could be given to having a public meeting to discuss the budget with parishioners. Although this was felt to be a good idea it was also felt this would not be well attended. Mr Broad left the meeting at this point. Matters also discussed with regard to the budget were Quality Status, where it was agreed not to go forward with this at present, but possibly bring this up again at some point in the future, and also to continue to work towards the standards required. It was agreed to take any expenditure concerning the Jubilee from reserves. It was also agreed that in future the letting of the Grass Keep Field should be advertised. It was further agreed that in future the Clerk's annual pay review should be in line with the RPI on 1st January of each year. The following budget was then agreed:-

EXPENDITURE:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Village Hall Rent (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 215.80 |
| Subscriptions (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 172.00 |
| Donations (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) | 350.00 |
| Playing Field Grass Cut (L.G. (MP) A. 1976) | 760.00 |
| Grass Keep Field (L.G. (MP) A. 1976) | 180.00 |
| Other PC Land Maintenance (L.G. (MP) A. 1976) | 600.00 |
| Footpaths (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) | 100.00 |
| Vegetation Clearance (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) | 180.00 |
| Noticeboard (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) | 100.00 |
| Clerks Salary (L.G.A. 1972 S. 112) | 2212.00 |
| Insurance (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 440.00 |
| Telephone/Stamps/Broadband (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 200.00 |
| Chairman's Allowance/Travel Expenses (L.G.A. 1972 Sch. 12) | 100.00 |
| Audit Fee (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 210.00 |
| Stationery (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 170.00 |
| I.T. Support (L.G.A. 1972 S. 111) | 800.00 |
| Extra Winter Provision (L.G.A. 1972 S. 137) | 100.00 |
| | 6839.80 |

ESTIMATED INCOME:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Grass Keep | 330.00 |
| HVLTC Ground Rent | 200.00 |
| Playing Field Rental | 110.00 |
| Interest on Deposit Account | 3.00 |
| | 643.00 |

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| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Estimated Expenditure | 6839.80 |
| Less Estimated Income | 643.00 |
| | 6196.80 |

It was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Bell that the 2012/13 precept should be £6196.00, agreed unanimously.

The Chairman asked that Japanese Knotweed at The Lime Kiln be included on the next agenda.

MAIN MATTERS:

Taking Stock of Chedworth Parish Council:

- a) Setting of a Four Year Plan: Although Mr Brister was absent from the meeting it was agreed to ask him to progress the plan for the next meeting with the aim of presenting it at the Parish Meeting on 19th March.
- b) Quality Status: As this had been discussed during the budget it was agreed to removed from the agenda at present. However, it was emphasised that this was being postponed primarily because of the relatively high cost of the training that is required for the Clerk, which she has agreed to do, and the fact that we were not able to progress because we do not have enough elected Councillors, even with the current election about to take place. We will still aim to adopt Quality Status procedures, albeit without the formal certification, with a view to review again in two years time nearer the election.

Communication between Parish Council and the Public:

- a) The Parish Council Website: The Chairman reported that he was still awaiting the template which would hopefully be received by the next meeting.
- b) Updating the Village Website: Mr King reported that to date he had received a good response to his email to local groups and societies. It was agreed that he would continue with the review.

2. MATTERS FOR UPDATING AND DISCUSSION:

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Fields Road Speeding: This had been discussed earlier in the meeting but Mr King also reported that Mr Poulton and Mr Shaftoe were soon to be trained as part of the Community Speed Watch scheme.

b) Winter Maintenance & Grit Provision: The Clerk reported that the GCC Highways donation towards the Salt Spreader was still outstanding. The Clerk was asked to chase this up again. Mr King reported there was a problem with the new grit bins filling with water. The Chairman would seek advice from Mr Swift.

c) Number Plate for Grit Spreader – Email from Andrea Shutt: PCSO Shutt had advised that a numberplate would be required. Mr Bell had the purchase of one in hand.

Mr Broad rejoined the meeting at this point.

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d) Slow Sign on Hemplands Hill: Mr King reported that he had raised this at the meeting on Fields Road with Mrs Watkins and Mr Swift and visited the site. They had offered to provide roadside warning sign and painting slow on the road at the approach to the Hemplands from Lower Chedworth. It was agreed to accept this offer.

Defibrillators:

a) Purchase of the Third Defibrillator Cabinet: The Clerk reported that the cabinet was due to be delivered in mid January. The Chairman would install it and Mr See would do the electrics.

b) Defibrillator Training: This was due to be held tomorrow evening in the Seven Tuns.

c) Letter of thanks to the Chedworth Society: Mr Bell handed over the Chedworth Society cheque towards the defibrillator. A letter of thanks will now be sent.

Items Arising from Email:

a) BAP Awareness: Mr Bell reported on this to the meeting and pointed out that it was rather a complicated subject. It was agreed that he would also reply by email to Joanne Leigh.

b) Parish Website Needs Updating – Email from Harry Curzon: Some old links had not been removed from the website. Mr King had spoken to Mrs Young and Mr Priest about this and they had now been removed, although it may take some weeks for the changes to take effect.

c) Play Gloucestershire Email: It was agreed not to partake in this again this year as it was very expensive.

d) GCC Mobile Library Timetable January to March 2011: Noted.

e) CDC Cotswold Conversation Workshop - 24th January Chedworth VH: It was noted that David Musgrave was speaking at this and it was agreed that Mr King would attend.

f) Cotswolds Conservation Board Meeting - 8th December – held over from last meeting: Mr Bell reported on this and confirmed that the public did have access to

the meetings and they were advertised on the Conservation Board website. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

The Grass Keep Field:

a) Erection of Structure: As nothing further had been heard from Mr Baker, it was agreed to email him and ask if any progress had been made.

Localism: Last month's requests had been superseded by the new Housing Needs Survey. Mr Broad spoke about localism and was asked to keep Council informed of anything of interest that may arise with regard to localism and planning. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda at present.

Broadband Speeds: Mr King reported that Mr Aveline was still asking people to complete the questionnaire.

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Emergency Planning: Mr King had spoken to Mr Musgrave who was happy to get involved. Mr King was still progressing this.

PLANNING:

Applications:

CD 1969/B Highfield House – Extension to Agricultural Building – No objection
11/05755/TCONR Jude Amphlett – Tree Works – No consultation

FINANCE:

1. A Bell (Number Plate for Spreader) £10.44, prop. J King, sec. P Sibbald.
2. GPFA Annual Subscription £50.00, prop. P Sibbald, sec. D Broad. It was agreed to ask GPFA if they have any suggestions for increasing the use of the Playing Field. It was agreed to enquire whether they have a directory or database promoting members' playing fields for rent or hire, to which we could be added.
3. Council in receipt of £75.52 GCC contribution towards cutting the Tuns Hill triangle

CORRESPONDENCE:

Request for use of Playing Field March for the Roman Trail Run on 18th March from Mr Edelsten: It was agreed to reply that the Parish Council does not normally allow car parking on the Playing Field but under the circumstances had agreed to the request subject to payment of the £200.00 offered for the use of the whole field. It was also agreed to ask them to make every effort to minimise damage to the field.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee: Mr King reported that he had currently received eleven responses to his email to various village organisations and the most popular suggestion was for a community picnic on the Playing Field with a large TV screen to watch the BBC Buckingham Palace Concert with possibly a beacon and fireworks later. Mr King had made enquiries about the cost of hiring the TV screen and had obtained a quote of around £1500.00 plus VAT which it was felt the Parish Council could reclaim. Mr Bell felt he might be able to get a better price from some of his contacts and it was agreed to look into this. It was proposed by Mr King and seconded by Mr Bell for the Parish Council to pay the initial deposit up to £650.00 maximum but will then be looking for donations from people and organisations in the village to cover the costs, agreed. It had also been suggested that there should be some sort of permanent memorial such as a village sign or avenue of trees. It was agreed that Mr King would continue to progress the organisation of the event.

Five Yearly Review of HVLTC Annual Ground Rent: The five yearly rent review for the tennis courts is due. It was agreed to write and inform the HVLTC that it

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will be discussed further at our next meeting on the 13th February. It was agreed to ask Mr Brister appraise the Council of the ideas in the letter he drafted, previously sent to HVLTC, regarding the rent review.

Items for the Hill and Valley: Several items were identified to be included.

The meeting concluded at 9.56 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 13th February 2012 at 7.30 pm.

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Date.....